

AMENDMENTS THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Original): A foldable portable telephone having first and second casings coupled with each other via a hinge portion, comprising:

first and second electronic circuit portions provided within said first and second casings, respectively; and

first and second shield members for shielding said first and second electronic circuit portions, respectively,

at least one of said first and second shield members additionally serving as an antenna for said portable telephone.

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Claim 2 (Original): The portable telephone according to claim 1, wherein said first electronic circuit portion includes a communication circuit for communicating with a base station using said second shield member as the antenna.

Claim 3 (Original): The portable telephone according to claim 2, wherein said second shield member includes a slit for adjusting its characteristics as the antenna.

Claim 4 (Original): The portable telephone according to claim 2, wherein said second shield member includes an extended portion for adjusting its characteristics as the antenna.

Claim 5 (Original): The portable telephone according to claim 2, further comprising an antenna matching circuit connected between said communication circuit and said second shield member.

Claim 6 (Original): The portable telephone according to claim 2, further comprising:
a first antenna matching circuit for matching when said portable telephone is unfolded;

a second antenna matching circuit for matching when said portable telephone is folded;

a detector for detecting whether said portable telephone is folded; and

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a switching circuit operating based on a detected result of said detector, for connecting said first antenna matching circuit between said communication circuit and said second shield member when said portable telephone is unfolded, and for connecting said second antenna matching circuit between said communication circuit and said second shield member when said portable telephone is folded.

Claim 7 (Original): The portable telephone according to claim 2, further comprising an antenna mounted to said first casing and having its feeding portion connected to said communication circuit,

said communication circuit communicating with said base station via said second shield member and said antenna.

Claim 8 (Original): The portable telephone according to claim 2, further comprising an antenna mounted to said second casing and having its feeding portion connected to said second shield member,

said communication circuit communicating with said base station via said second shield member and said antenna.

Claim 9 (Original): The portable telephone according to claim 8, further comprising a matching circuit for said antenna that is connected between said second shield member and the feeding portion of said antenna.

Claim 10 (Original): The portable telephone according to claim 2, further comprising:

an antenna mounted to said first casing;

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a detector for detecting whether a hand of a user of said portable telephone is touching said antenna; and

a switching circuit operating based on a detected result of said detector, for connecting said communication circuit to said antenna when said user's hand is not touching said antenna, and for connecting said communication circuit to said second shield member when said user's hand is touching said antenna,

said communication circuit communicating with said base station via either one of said antenna and said second shield member that is connected to said communication circuit by said switching circuit.

Claim 11 (New): The portable telephone according to claim 1, wherein the first shield member comprises a shield box containing the first electronic circuit portion.

Claim 12 (New): The portable telephone according to claim 1, wherein the second shield member comprises a shield box containing the second electronic circuit portion.

Claim 13 (New): The portable telephone according to claim 12, wherein the first shield member comprises a shield box containing the first electronic circuit portion.

Claim 14 (New): The portable telephone according to claim 1, wherein the second electronic circuit portion includes a transmitting circuit for transmitting signals and a ground layer, and

AI an output terminal of said transmitting circuit is connected via said hinge portion to said first shield member, and a ground terminal of said transmitting circuit is connected to said ground layer.

Claim 15 (New): The portable telephone according to claim 1, wherein said first casing is an upper casing and said second casing is a lower casing, and said second casing is adopted to be held in a user's hand.